

AMENDMENTIn the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

See 51
103. (Amended three times) A process of isolating a substance with an ability to act as a specific agonist of a kappa opioid receptor, said process comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an opioid receptor polypeptide comprising a second extracellular loop comprising the amino acid sequence GGTKVREDVDVIECSLQFPDDEYSWW, wherein the polypeptide is encoded for by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 30 contiguous bases of SEQ ID NO:1;
- b) contacting said opioid receptor polypeptide with a composition comprising said substance;
- c) detecting the ability of said substance to act as a specific agonist of said opioid receptor; and
- d) isolating said substance if the ability of said substance to act as a specific agonist of the opioid receptor is detected.

I
109. (Amended three times) A process of isolating a substance with an ability to act as a specific agonist of a kappa opioid receptor, said process comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an opioid receptor polypeptide comprising the second extracellular loop comprising the amino acid sequence GGTKVREDVDVIECCLQFPDDYSWW and encoded for by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 60 contiguous bases of SEQ ID NO:11;
- b) contacting said opioid receptor polypeptide with a composition comprising said substance;

- I²
Cont
- c) detecting the ability of said substance to bind to said opioid receptor polypeptide; and
 - d) isolating said substance if the ability of said substance to specifically bind to the opioid receptor polypeptide is detected.

I³
117. (Amended twice) The process of claim 116, wherein the chimeric opioid receptor polypeptide comprises a second extracellular loop comprising the amino acid sequence GGTKVREDDVDIECSLQFPDDEYSWW.

I⁴
129. (Amended three times) A process of screening a substance for its ability to act as a specific agonist of a kappa opioid receptor comprising:

- a) expressing a chimeric recombinant opioid receptor polypeptide comprising a second extracellular loop comprising the amino acid sequence GGTKVREDDVDIECSLQFPDDEYSWW, wherein said opioid receptor polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising at least 30 contiguous bases of SEQ ID NO:1;
- b) contacting said substance with the opioid receptor polypeptide; and
- c) detecting the ability of the substance to specifically bind to the opioid receptor polypeptide.

I⁵
137. (Amended) A process of screening a substance for its ability to act as a specific agonist of a kappa opioid receptor comprising:

- a) expressing a chimeric recombinant opioid receptor polypeptide comprising the second extracellular loop comprising the amino acid sequence GGTKVREDDVDIECCLQFPDDDYSWW, wherein said chimeric opioid receptor polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising 60 contiguous bases of SEQ ID NO:11;